

MEETING MINUTES

July 26, 2007

Project: Former Camp Butner Restoration Advisory Board

Date: July 26, 2007, 6:30 – 7:20 p.m.

Place: Butner Town Operations Building

Butner, North Carolina

Attendees: Sam Colella, USACE Wilmington (Co-Chair, Government Representative); Richard Veazey, Granville County Resident (Co-Chair); Barry Baker, Granville County Senior Planner; Marti Morgan, NCDENR Engineer; Scott Strickland, Butner Public Safety; Tom McGee, Town of Butner; Linda Starks, EPA; Hope Taylor-Guevara, Clean Water for NC and Resident; Susan Bass; (Raymond Livermore, USACE Wilmington; Robert Nore, USA Environmental.)

Prepared by: Robert Nore

Topic: RAB Meeting 11

INTRODUCTION

At 6:30 p.m. Co-Chairman Richard Veazey called the meeting to order. Minutes from the April 26 meeting were approved.

Mr. Veazey briefly went over the Agenda and the RAB voted Vicki Cates in as a new member.

WORK UPDATE

Robert (Bob) Nore, Project Manager with USA Environmental gave a brief update, noting that no work had been completed since the last RAB meeting. He said that the Corps of Engineers has revised the Explosives Safety Submission (ESS) and is awaiting approval from DDESB. He was hoping for approval within the next couple of weeks and said that USA Environmental will return shortly after that approval to finish Area 4C, 4B, and 4E. The new Minimum Separation Distance (MSD) in Area 4C will be based on the 105mm projectile instead of the 155mm projectile, which is roughly 1900 feet versus the current 2577 feet. In response to a question from Tom McGee, Ray Livermore clarified that the change in MSD does not affect the ordnance that we're looking for, only the ordnance that we expect to find. It allows us to shorten the evacuation distance, and we will have to expand back out to 2577 feet if we find a 155mm projectile.

Mr. Ray Livermore informed the RAB that he had consulted with USACE attorneys from both Wilmington District and Huntsville Corps of Engineers regarding their options for forcing Mr. Hicks to evacuate so that his neighbors properties could be cleared. He said that USACE could not force an evacuation, and he further stated that the Granville County Sheriff's Office had indicated that they do not have the authority to force an evacuation unless a state of emergency was declared. Mr. Nore stated that the new MSD will minimize Mr. Hicks' interference with clearance of other properties.

FUTURE WORK DISCUSSION

At the request of Tom McGee, and in the interest of educating the new RAB member, Mr. Livermore reviewed the history of Camp Butner and went into detail on the Corps of Engineers actions taken to date, addressing the Time Critical Removal Actions at the Lakeview Subdivision, Blalock and Riley properties; and the Engineering Evaluation/ Cost Analysis (EE/CA) recommendations. Mr. Livermore's presentation (Attachment 1) used a Range Complex Map to explain the firing fans, deed-restricted areas, and EE/CA results grid status. Mr. Veazey furnished Marti Morgan's Camp Butner summary to Ms. Cates for her information.

Mr. Livermore then explained future work, identifying the residences that he was proposing for the new work awarded this year. He stressed his use of EE/CA results, firing fan data, and deed restrictions as criteria in prioritizing the first residences for clearance. He also explained that he tried to take potential evacuations into account so that residents are only impacted during one clearance action. The first 10 residences (of 140 identified during the EE/CA in Complex 1 south of Enon Road) are located primarily to the south of Area 4E (9 residences) and 1 residence along Enon Road. The first 15 residences (of 85 identified in Complex 2 north of Enon Road) will be along Enon Road, Uzzle Road, and Moriah Road adjacent to Area 4C. Work will probably begin in late fall. When questioned on how long the action would take, Mr. Livermore clarified that one team could clear one residence in one week.

NATIONAL GUARD LAND USE STUDY

Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Foster of the North Carolina National Guard gave a briefing on the Joint Land Use Study, which the NG applied for in January of this year. They were one of 4 sites in the country selected for a land use study this year. An Economic Adjustment Board funds 90% of the study and local groups fund the other 10%. They formed a board, have had two meetings and are getting resolutions together and looking for ways to acquire land easements for the buffer zone. They are interested in establishing a one-mile buffer zone around the NG property before too many developments are established, in order to minimize complaints from residents.

He stressed that the NG has been good stewards of the land. They've done away with slit trenches and are putting in their own sewer and water systems. They are also concerned about protecting wildlife.

Barry Baker suggested that the community had an opportunity to get involved in the LUS. He anticipated that outright purchases rather than easements would allow a reduction of the land that has to be cleared, reduce the cost of UXO cleanup, and allow limited cleanup funds to focus on existing residences.

CSM said they test their water every 30 days and are getting no bad results anywhere. Their wells are 450 feet deep and 8 inches in diameter.

UXO SIGN UPDATE

Mr. Livermore reported that the funding had gone to the contracting office, a contract would be awarded soon, and signs should be going up soon.

SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATE

Mr. Strickland reported for Doug Logan, and said there had been no activity since the last RAB, mostly due to the summer vacation.

ORDNANCE DISCOVERY UPDATE

Mr. Strickland said there had been no reported discoveries since the last RAB. Mr. Veazey reported that he had a bucket of “bones” to turn in.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mr. Veazey stated that he encourages public comments and appreciates questions from the public. This evening there were no questions from the public.

CLOSING/ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Veazey told the Board Members that he had enjoyed being their Co-Chair this year, but that his term as Co-Chairman expires after the next RAB meeting. He asked that the RAB elect a new Co-Chair.

At 7:20 p.m., Tom McGee motioned to adjourn, Barry Baker seconded, and the motion was unanimously carried.